

Please add claims 54 and 55 as follows:

C2
54. (New) --The method of claim 51, further including removing excess solvent from the cleaning fabric supply roll wherein the solvent removal occurs inside a container holding the solvent.--

55. (New)--The method of claim 51, further including removing excess solvent from the cleaning fabric supply roll, wherein the solvent removal occurs outside a container holding the solvent.--

REMARKS

Claim 51 has been amended and claims 54-55 have been added to more clearly state the claimed invention. No new matter has been added Support for this amendment can be found on page 21, lines 10-18 and page 20, lines 16-25. Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments is respectfully requested.

1. **Applicants Request Reconsideration of the Examiner's Decision Regarding the Restriction Requirement and Elected Species**

Claims 35-43 and 51-53 are pending. Applicants traversed the restriction requirement in Paper No. 5 and provisionally elected to prosecute the species of Fig. 2. Claims 35-43 have been withdrawn from further consideration. Applicants request reconsideration of withdrawing claims 35-43 for the following reasons.

The Examiner has based withdrawal of claims 35-43 on the understanding that Fig. 2 requires the cleaning fabric supply roll (10) is "dipped" into the cleaning solvent to get soaked. Applicants contend that dipping is not required, but merely one method of accomplishing the claimed step of contacting the cleaning fabric supply roll with the solvent (See Applicants specification page 19 lines 4-8).

The withdrawn claims differ from pending claim 51 in that claims 35-43 all claim the additional step of wrapping the fabric. The step of contacting the roll with the solvent is claimed in the withdrawn claims and is considered to cover the embodiment shown in Fig. 2. For these reasons, Applicants request reconsideration of the Examiner's decision regarding the restriction and election of species in Paper No. 5.

2. A PRIMA FACIE CASE OF OBVIOUS HAS NOT BEEN MADE SINCE THE CITED REFERENCES OF THE '353 AND '157 PATENTS DO NOT TEACH OR SUGGEST WHAT THE APPLICANT CLAIMS

Claim 51 has been rejected under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over Aoki (5,509,353) in view of Gasparrini (5,368,157). Applicants traverse the rejection and submit a prima facie case of obviousness has not been made.

The '353 patent discloses a complex system using supply tubes (78) and a liquid reservoir (77) to pump the cleaning fluid to the sponge. Cleaning fluid is passed through a manifold or guiding member (74) that has a series of small holes that apply the cleaning fluid. Supply tubes (78) carry cleaning fluid from a source (not shown) through a coupler (79) so that cleaning fluid passes or is pumped from the supply tube (78) to liquid reservoir (77). (See Col. 3, lines 60-67; Col. 4, lines 1-15).

The '157 patent is directed at a pre-packed, pre-soaked cleaning system that utilizes a plastic sleeve to permit the transportation and storage of the system until use of the fabric roll. (See Col. 3, lines 65-68; Col. 4 lines 1-17).

The Applicants, on the other hand, claim a method of presoaking a cleaning fabric supply roll for cleaning a cylinder in a printing press that does not require complex apparatus or a plastic sleeve. The Applicants' invention provides a cleaning fabric supply roll that is pre-soaked, with a low volatility, compound solvent, and then engaged with a printing press having a cylinder to

be cleaned. A distinct advantage of the cleaning system of the Applicants' claimed invention is that it eliminates the need for complex apparatus, such as pumps, spray bars, manifold lines, valves and the like, especially as part of the automatic blanket cleaning systems used on printing machinery to introduce cleansing solvents or solutions to the cleaning fabric.(See, Applicants Specification page 32, lines 10-15). In addition, the Applicants claimed invention does not require a plastic sleeve to prevent disruption of the distribution of solvent in the fabric roll, which would detrimentally affect the cleaning ability of the fabric. None of the cited references teach or suggest such a method.

Applicants respectfully submit that the '353 patent in combination with the '157 patent does not teach or suggest the subject matter claimed, and in fact teach away from the Applicants claimed invention by requiring complex apparatus or a plastic sleeve to apply the cleaning solution or prevent disruption of the fabric's cleaning ability. Since the references cited do not teach or suggest what the Applicants have claimed, a prima facie case of obviousness has not been made. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

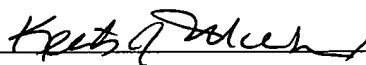
CONCLUSION AND AUTHORIZATION

For at least these reasons, it is believed that all of the claims as presently presented, are patentable, and that this application is now in allowable condition.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for the timely consideration of this amendment under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. , Order No. 0140-4126US4.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: Nov. 1, 2002



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

51. (Amended) A method of presoaking cloth for cleaning a cylinder in a printing press, the method comprising:

contacting a cleaning fabric supply roll with a low volatility, compound solvent which does not evaporate readily at ambient temperature and pressure and soaking and saturating said cleaning fabric supply roll with said solvent, such that the contacting of the cleaning fabric supply roll with the solvent is does not require the use of pumps, spray bars, manifold lines and valves; and

engaging said saturated cleaning fabric supply roll with a printing press having a cylinder to be cleaned without disposing of a heat-sealed plastic sleeve about said fabric roll and without substantially disturbing the distribution of said solvent in said fabric roll and detrimentally affecting the cleaning ability of the fabric.

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55. (New)--The method of claim 51, further including removing excess solvent from the cleaning fabric supply roll, wherein the solvent removal occurs outside a container holding the solvent.--